

IN THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete listing of the claims, and replaces all earlier versions and listings. For the Examiner's convenience, all of the pending claims are set forth below, even though none are being amended herein.

1. (Previously Presented) A method of defining qualities for a digital image signal encoded beforehand, comprising defining a plurality of quality modes each corresponding to at least one decoding parameter of the digital signal, on the basis of rate information provided via a graphical interface and perception quality information provided via a visualization of the decoded digital signal, wherein a digital image in a given one of the quality modes is obtained by decoding the digital image signal encoded beforehand using at least one decoding parameter corresponding to the given quality mode, and wherein all of the quality modes defined and only the quality modes defined are made accessible to a final user.

2. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein there are three quality modes, including a low quality mode, a normal quality mode, and a high quality mode.

3. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein a predetermined number of quality layers is associated with each quality mode.

4. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 3, wherein the decoding parameter is the number of quality layers.

5. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein each quality mode corresponds to the decoding of a predetermined quantity of data representing the digital signal.

6. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, further comprising storing the at least one decoding parameter in a file to be transmitted to a final user to deduce therefrom, according to the quality mode chosen by the user, the corresponding decoding parameter.

7. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 6, wherein the file is in SWF format.

8. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 3, further comprising an initializing step of determining default values of the number of quality layers to be associated with each quality mode, corresponding to mutually different quantities of data representing the digital signal.

9. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 3, wherein the rate information is represented in the form of a graph illustrating the size of the image represented by the digital signal as a function of the number of quality layers.

10. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 3, wherein the predetermined number of quality layers is represented in the form of a cursor simultaneously with the visualization of the decoded digital signal.

11. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the digital signal is a signal representing an image encoded according to the JPEG2000 standard.

12. (Previously Presented) A device for defining qualities for a digital image signal encoded beforehand, comprising means for defining a plurality of quality modes each corresponding to at least one decoding parameter of the digital signal, on the basis of rate information provided via a graphical interface and perception quality information provided via a visualization of the decoded digital signal, wherein a digital image in a given one of the quality modes is obtained by decoding the digital image signal encoded beforehand using at least one decoding parameter corresponding to the given quality mode, and wherein all of the quality modes defined and only the quality modes defined are made accessible to a final user.

13. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 12, wherein there are three quality modes, including a low quality mode, a normal quality mode, and a high quality mode.

14. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 12, wherein a predetermined number of quality layers is associated with each quality mode.

15. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 14, wherein the decoding parameter is the number of quality layers.

16. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 12, wherein each quality mode corresponds to the decoding of a predetermined quantity of data representing the digital signal.

17. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 12, further comprising means for storing the at least one decoding parameter in a file to be transmitted to a final user to deduce therefrom, according to the quality mode chosen by the user, the corresponding decoding parameter.

18. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 17, wherein the file is in SWF format.

19. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 14, further comprising initializing means for determining default values of the number of quality layers to be associated with each quality mode, corresponding to mutually different quantities of data representing the digital signal.

20. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 14, wherein the rate information is represented in the form of a graph illustrating the size of the image represented by the digital signal as a function of the number of quality layers.

21. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 14, wherein the predetermined number of quality layers is represented in the form of a cursor simultaneously with the visualization of the decoded digital signal.

22. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 12, wherein the digital signal is a signal representing an image encoded according to the JPEG2000 standard.

23. (Canceled)